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ABSTRACT

In fall 1988, 509 of the 9,533 students attending Catonsville Community College (CCC) indicated on their admissions applications that they had obtained a bachelor's degree (BA) or higher. A study of the characteristics of these students, in contrast with the other students attending CCC, revealed the following: (1) the BA students were older than other CCC students, with an average age of 44.5 years compared to 29.1 years for the remaining students; (2) 17% of the BA students and 23% of the other students were minority; (3) 49% of the BA students were female, compared to 52% of the others; (4) BA students took an average of 3.7 credit hours, while the other students took an average of 6.9 credit hours; (5) only 1.4% of the BA students attended full time, compared to 24% of the non-BA students; (6) BA students were more likely to take evening classes; and (7) 74% of the BA students' were attending CCC "to take course(s) without working towards a degree or certificate," 44% were attending for "personal interest or enrichment," and 27% were enrolled to "update skills for a job currently held." (AJL)

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STUDENTS WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE ATTENDING CATONSVILLE COMMUNTY COLLEGE IN FALL 1988

by

Robert C. Lynch

November 1988

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SC 890 143

November, 1988

STUDENTS WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE ATTENDING CCC IN FALL, 1988

Community Colleges attract students from a wide range of economic, cultural, and academic backgrounds each semester. In the Fall, 1988 Semester at CCC, 509 of our 9,533 students (5.3%) had indicated on their admissions application that they had obtained a Bachelor's Degree or higher. This report is a brief profile of that segment of our credit student population and comparisons with students who either do not have or had not indicated that they have a Bachelor's Degree.

As might be expected, the Bachelor's Degree (B.A.) students are somewhat older than the rest of the students, with an average age of 44.5 (versus 29.1). A smaller proportion of the B.A. students are minority - 17% versus 23%, and slightly less than half (49%) are female, compared to the rest of the students, 52% of whom are female. Two-thirds of the B.A. students have attended CCC prior to this Fall Semester, which is the same proportion as the rest of the students. The two groups are also similar in their residence - 73% of the B.A. students are from Baltimore County, as are 69% of the non-B.A. students.

The B.A. students are taking fewer credits than their counterparts: they average 3.7 (versus 6.9), and only 1.4% of them are full-time students (versus 24% of the non-B.A. students). These B.A. students are also much more likely to be evening students than the others. The programs of study in which the largest numbers of B.A. students are enrolled are: General Studies, Data Processing, Accounting Certificate, Business Accounting, Real Estate, Construction, Interpreting, and Applied Art & Design. Unsurprisingly, only 7% of the B.A. students are enrolled in "Transfer" programs of study. However, at first glance, the 55% enrolled in General Studies is surprising until the "Educational Goal" and "Reason for Attending" data are examined: 74% of the B.A. students' goals are "to take course(s) without working towards a degree or certificate," while for 44% of them the reason for attending is "personal interest or enrichment," and 27% are here to "update skills for a job currently held." Fairly clearly, the community college mission for B.A. students is one of continuing education and lifelong learning. Those B.A. students who have attended CCC prior to this semester are doing quite well - their Q.P.A. is 3.60.

The 509 B.A. students were enrolled in 543 separate courses, excluding laboratory sections (782 including labs). Very few of these students took TV or self-paced courses (n=8 and 6, respectively); only 6 were enrolled at Hunt Valley, but 76 of the students (15%) were taking classes at the Northwest Center.

Catonsville Community College
Office of Institutional Research

TABLE 1

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF
BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS AT CCC
IN THE FALL, 1988 SEMESTER

	B.A. Degree Students (n=509)	All Other Students (n=9024)
Gender		
Female	48.7%	51.6%
Male	51.3%	48.4%
Race/Ethnic		
Black	8.9%	17.7%
Asian	4.0%	2.5%
Other Minority	3.8%	3.2%
White	83.4%	76.6%
New vs Returning		
New-Transfer	33.4%	33.8%
Returning	43.4%	45.9%
Readmit	23.2%	20.3%
Age Groupings		
29 or Under	22.6%	68.1%
30 - 39	29.9%	19.0%
40 - 59	21.4%	8.6%
60 or Over	26.1%	4.2%
Mean Age	44.5	29.1
Median Age	39.0	25.0
Residence		
Baltimore County	73.1%	69.1%
Baltimore City	11.8%	11.9%
Howard County	6.9%	6.1%
Carroll County	2.9%	5.4%
Other Md. County	5.0%	6.8%
Non-Md/Non-U.S.	.4%	.6%

TABLE 2

ENROLLMENT AND ACADEMIC CHARACTERISTICS
OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS AT CCC
IN THE FALL, 1988 SEMESTER

	B.A. Degree Students (n=509)		All Other Students (n=9024)	
Fall Enrollment				
Part-Time	98.6%		76.3%	
Full-Time	1.4%		23.7%	
Average Credits	3.72		6.89	
Day Only	29.9%		41.2%	
Night Only	61.3%		41.8%	
Day & Night	8.8%		17.0%	
Academic Progress				
Cumulative Credits	13.0		25.0	
Cumulative Q.P.A.	3.60		2.86	
Primary Curricula				
Accounting Certificate	23	4.5%	45	.5%
Applied Art & Design	11	2.2%	278	3.1%
Arts & Sciences	10	2.0%	179	2.0%
Business Accounting	17	3.3%	472	5.2%
Construction Insp/Mgmt	12	2.4%	156	1.7%
Data Processing	45	8.8%	547	6.1%
Electronics	10	2.0%	265	2.9%
General Studies	278	54.6%	3438	38.1%
Interpreting for the Deaf	12	2.4%	75	.8%
Real Estate	17	3.3%	99	1.1%
Curriculum Groupings				
Transfer Programs	33	6.5%	1528	16.9%
General Studies	278	54.6%	3438	38.1%
Career Programs	198	38.9%	4058	45.0%
Educational Goals				
Just course(s)	74.2%		22.8%	
Certificate	11.1%		17.4%	
A.A. Degree	14.7%		59.9%	
Reason for Attending				
Exploration	16.6%		16.7%	
Career Entry	5.9%		20.1%	
Transfer to Four-Year	3.1%		36.1%	
Update Job Skills	26.6%		14.6%	
Personal Interest	43.5%		9.5%	
Other	4.3%		3.1%	

TABLE 3

EDUCATIONAL GOALS BY CURRICULUM GROUPING
FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS
IN THE FALL, 1988 SEMESTER

	Transfer Programs	Career Programs	General Studies	All B.A. Students
Just Courses	75%	77%	71%	74%
Certificate	7%	4%	19%	11%
A.A. Degree	18%	19%	10%	15%

TABLE 4

LISTING OF DEPARTMENTS IN WHICH BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS
TOOK COURSES AT CCC IN THE FALL, 1988 SEMESTER
(N = 509 Students, 60 Departments)

DEPT	FREQ	PCT	DEPT	FREQ	PCT	DEPT	FREQ	PCT
AAD	16	3	EAS	3	1	MET	2	0
ACC	47	9	ECO	3	1	MMT	1	0
ACH	1	0	EDU	12	2	MOS	1	0
ANT	5	1	ELE	17	3	MUS	6	1
APM	6	1	END	6	1	NUR	2	0
ARC	5	1	ENG	6	1	OAD	5	1
ART	56	10	ENS	1	0	OST	11	2
AST	1	0	ENV	3	1	PHI	3	1
AUT	1	0	EXP	2	0	PHY	8	1
BIO	12	2	FPA	2	0	PMT	3	1
BUA	5	1	GEO	1	0	POS	7	1
CAD	14	3	GER	6	1	PSY	7	1
CAM	1	0	HEA	2	0	RDG	3	1
CGR	7	1	HIS	22	4	REE	19	3
CHE	5	1	ITR	22	4	SOC	2	0
CIS	74	14	LAW	2	0	SPA	5	1
CJP	3	1	LIF	2	0	SPE	4	1
CON	22	4	MAN	8	1	SUR	10	2
CSC	2	0	MAR	2	0	TET	2	0
DCT	6	1	MAT	30	6	TRT	1	0

TABLE 5

LISTING OF COURSES TAKEN BY BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS
AT CCC IN THE FALL, 1988 SEMESTER
(N=509 Students, 543 Courses)

COURSE	FREQ	PCT
AAD111	7	1
AAD131	1	0
AAD212	4	1
AAD226	2	0
AAD261	1	0
AAD281	1	0
ACC101	13	2
ACC102	5	1
ACC116	1	0
ACC203	6	1
ACC204	4	1
ACC206	10	2
ACC211	2	0
ACC231	6	1
ACH101	1	0
ANT101	5	1
APM101	1	0
APM102	1	0
APM112	1	0
APM203	2	0
APM294	1	0
ARC111	3	1
ARC131	2	0
ART101	2	0
ART102	1	0
ART103	1	0
ART106	2	0
ART121	3	1
ART131	1	0
ART141	7	1
ART151	2	0
ART156	2	0
ART223	3	1
ART224	2	0
ART234	2	0
ART236	1	0
ART237	4	1
ART242	1	0
ART244	4	1
ART771	2	0
ART772	1	0
ART773	2	0
ART774	5	1
ART776	8	1
AST101	1	0
AUT131	1	0
BIO106	4	1
BIO108	2	0
BIO121	3	1
BIO141	2	0
BIO266	1	0
BUA101	4	1
BUA111	1	0
CAD101	8	1
CAD201	1	0
CAD221	5	1
CAM101	1	0
CGR101	4	1
CGR121	3	1
CHE121	1	0
CHE231	3	1
CHE241	1	0
CIS101	12	2
CIS106	1	0
CIS116	23	4
CIS121	3	1
CIS141	4	1
CIS151	3	1
CIS171	2	0
CIS176	2	0
CIS191	9	2
CIS192	6	1
CIS193	3	1
CIS237	6	1
CJP111	1	0
CJP166	2	0
CON101	4	1
CON106	3	1
CON111	10	2
CON121	2	0
CON136	3	1
CSC111	2	0
DCT101	1	0
DCT202	3	1
DCT216	2	0
EAS141	3	1
ECO121	3	1
EDU101	4	1
EDU181	8	1
ELE101	2	0
ELE111	3	1
ELE116	3	1
ELE131	1	0
ELE181	1	0
ELE201	1	0
ELE221	3	1
ELE231	1	0
ELE243	1	0
ELE246	1	0
END101	4	1
END102	1	0
END212	1	0
ENG101	2	0
ENG221	4	1
ENS111	1	0
ENV141	3	1
EXP101	2	0
FPA191	2	0
GEO101	1	0
GER101	6	1
HEA111	1	0
HEA141	1	0
HIS101	1	0
HIS102	1	0
HIS111	9	2
HIS141	11	2
ITR101	4	1
ITR102	1	0
ITR116	5	1
ITR121	4	1
ITR203	3	1
ITR211	3	1
ITR226	2	0
LAW112	2	0
LIF101	1	0
LIF111	1	0
MAN101	5	1
MAN111	1	0
MAN121	2	0
MAR121	1	0
MAR141	1	0
MAT001	3	1
MAT002	2	0
MAT101	1	0
MAT102	1	0
MAT104	1	0
MAT111	1	0
MAT121	1	0

LISTING OF COURSES, CONTINUED....

COURSE	FREQ	PCT
MAT131	6	1
MAT141	2	0
MAT161	2	0
MAT171	6	1
MAT172	1	0
MAT281	3	1
MET111	2	0
MMT106	1	0
MOS101	1	0
MUS101	5	1
MUS171	1	0
NUR101	1	0
NUR102	1	0
OAD101	3	1
OAD203	1	0
OAD261	1	0
OST101	1	0
OST111	2	0
OST151	1	0
OST161	7	1
PHI101	2	0
PHI121	1	0
PHY101	8	1
PMT101	1	0
PMT111	1	0
PMT121	1	0
POS121	7	1
PSY101	3	1
PSY106	1	0
PSY131	2	0
PSY171	1	0
RDG151	3	1
REE101	12	2
REE102	1	0
REE111	5	1
REE126	1	0
SOC101	2	0
SPA101	3	1
SPA203	2	0
SPE101	2	0
SPE131	2	0
SUR101	2	0
SUR111	2	0
SUR116	1	0
SUR231	1	0
SUR236	4	1
TET111	1	0
TET116	1	0
TRT241	1	0

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